

Wisconsin Food Stamp Program At a Glance

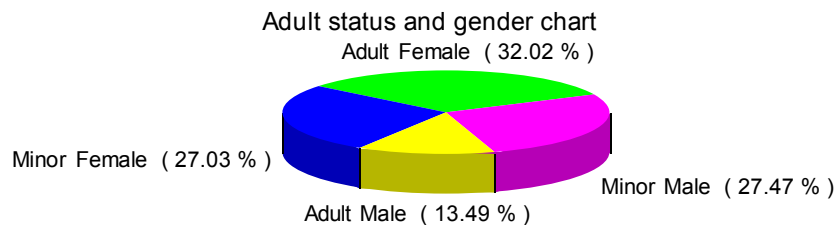
All data is for (or as of) the month of October, 2002¹

Who gets food stamps in Wisconsin?

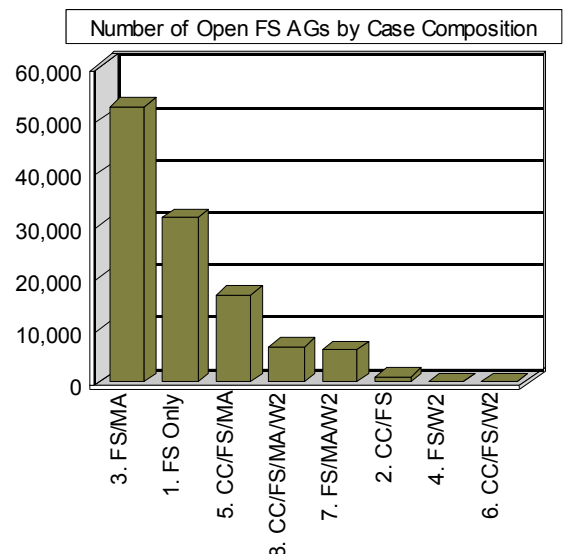
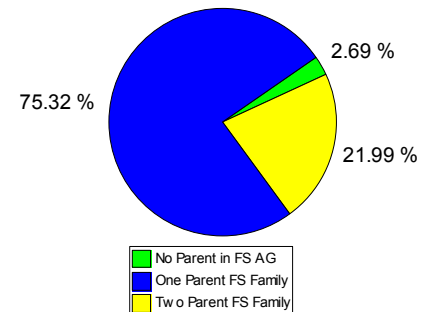
- **Poverty:** 5% of the 5.4 million people in Wisconsin receive FS.² On average from 1998 - 2000, 8.8% of the state population was at or below the federal poverty rate.³

- **Assistance Groups (AGs) and Recipients:** 114,436

Assistance groups are made up of 283,775 individuals. The AG size increased by 2% from last month and has been increasing steadily for the last 4 months. There are an average of 2.5 people in an AG.



- **Gender:** 59% are female and 41% are male.
- **Adults/Minors:** 45% are adults while 55% are minors. 60% of AGs have minors in them.
- **Minors and Their Parents:** Of the AG's that contain minors, 75.32% have one parent in the AG, 21.99% have two parents, and 2.69% have no parents in the household. "Parent" is defined as a biological parent.
- **Case Composition:** The graph on the right shows other types of CARES issued assistance that a FS AG receives.

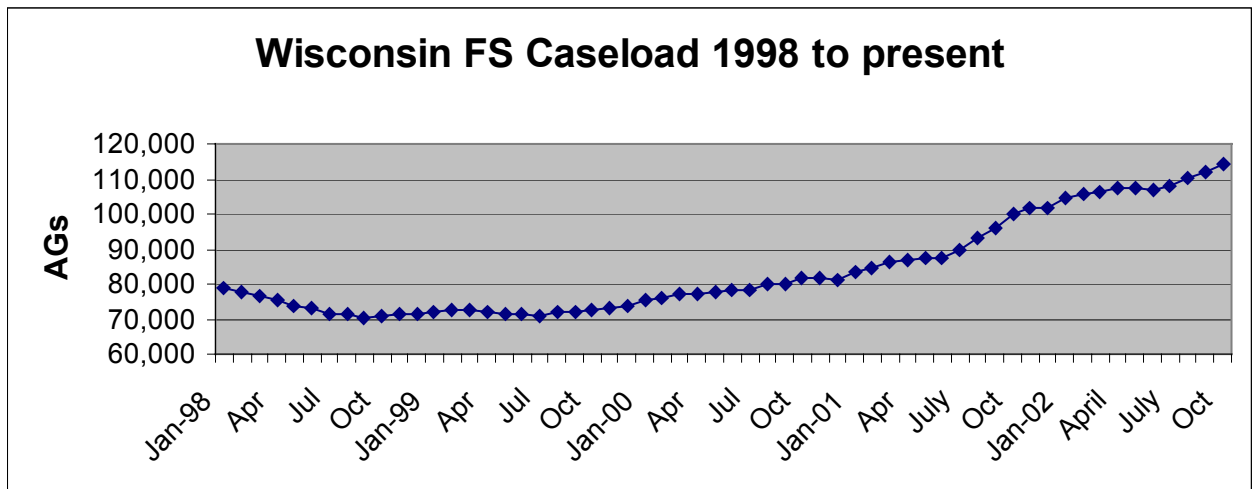


¹ Source: DWD/DWS FS Data Warehouse

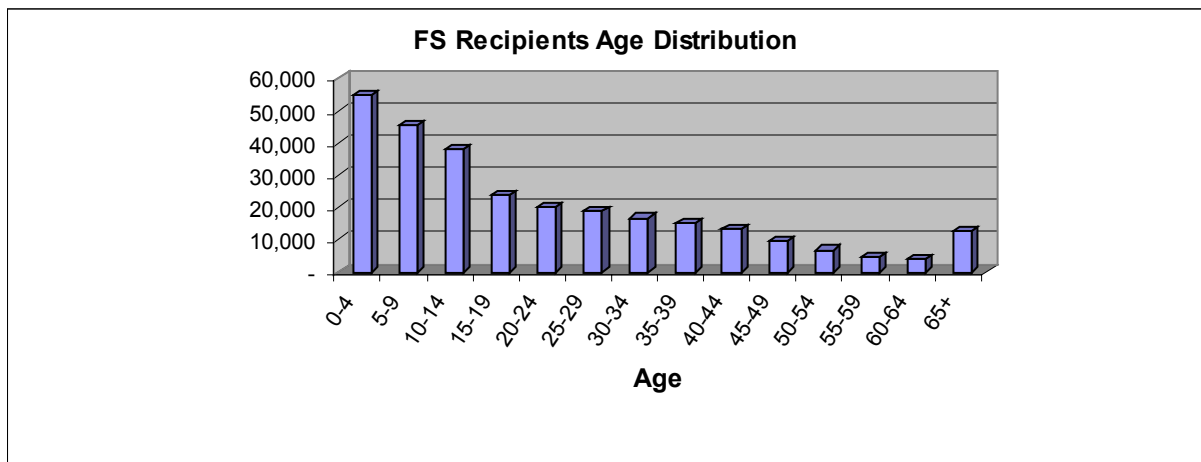
² Source: U.S. Census Bureau, <http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/55000.html>

³ Source: U. S. Census Bureau <http://www.census.gov/prod/2001pubs/p60-214.pdf>

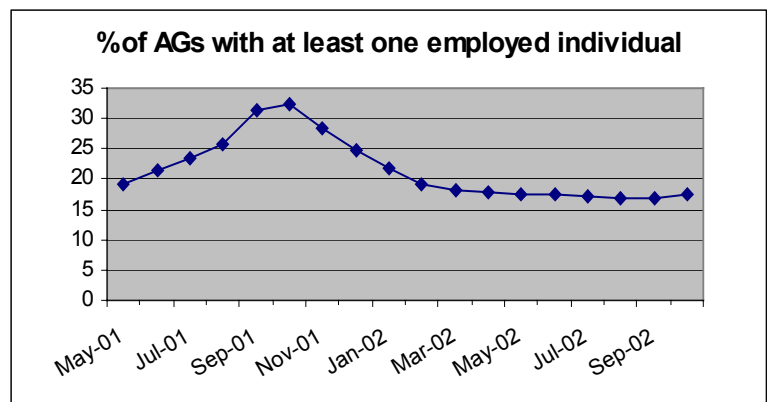
- **Historical Caseload Trend:** The statewide caseload had been increasing at a steady rate since May of 2000. After slight decreases in the summer months of 2002, the caseload continues to increase.



- **Age Distribution:** The chart below shows the number of FS recipients by age, in ranges of 5 years. The largest age group is comprised of children under age 4.

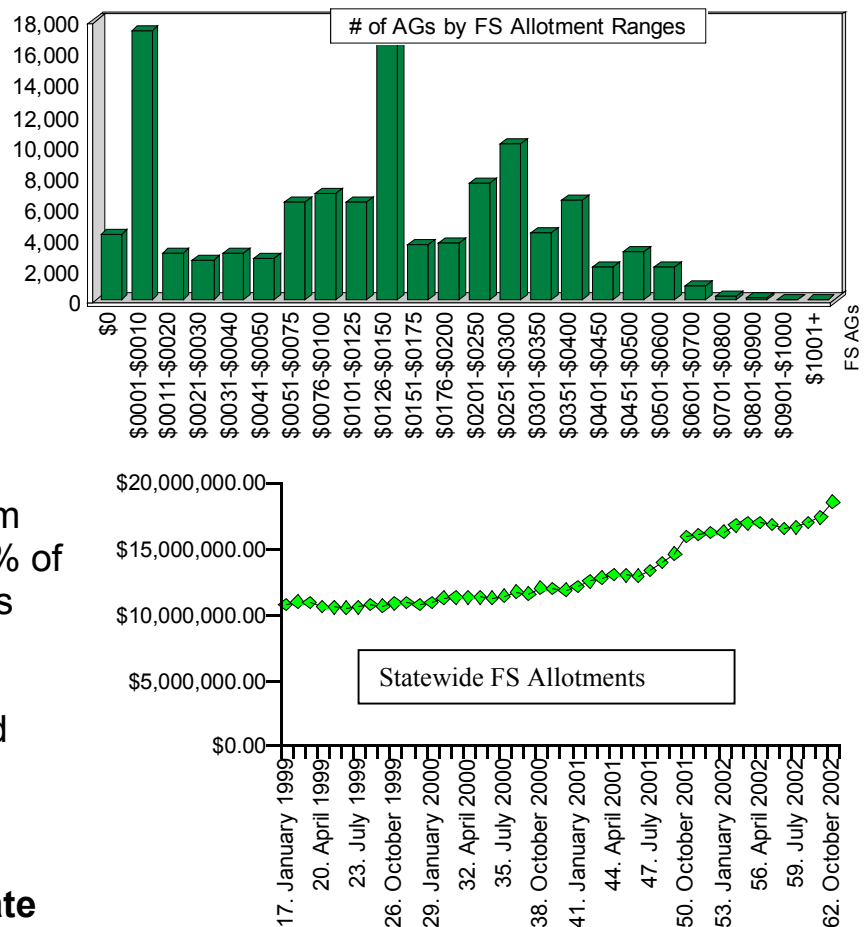


- **Elderly/Disabled:** 17% of FS recipients are either elderly, blind, or disabled. 41% of AGs contain at least one individual that is either elderly, blind, or disabled.
- **Work/Earnings:** 17.4% of the AGs have at least one person working. The



average monthly earned income of those AGs' is \$991.⁴ 33.8% of adult FS recipients are employed. The unemployment rate in Wisconsin for October 2002 is 4.9%.⁵

- Allotments:** A total of \$18.5 million in food stamp benefits were allotted for the month. The average allotment amount per AG is \$162, a 4% increase from last month. The average allotment for AGs that contain an elderly, blind, or disabled member is \$100, an 8% increase from last month. However, 19% of the caseload only receives between \$0 and \$10 in allotments. Statewide allotments have increased 15% in the last 12 benefit months.



- Quality Control Error Rate**

Data: For FFY 2001, Wisconsin's error rate was 13.14 %. The national average was 8.66%. The average error rate so far for FFY 2002 (October 2001 - July 2002) is 12.5%. Previous years' data is found below:

| Fiscal Year | Federal Target | Wisconsin Error Rate | Difference | Sanction Liability |
|-------------|----------------|----------------------|------------|--------------------|
| 1996 | 9.2% | 11.61% | +2.41% | \$1,224,955.00 |
| 1997 | 9.89% | 13.7% | +3.81% | \$2,200,000.00 |
| 1998 | 10.69% | 14.58% | +3.89% | \$689,391.00 |
| 1999 | 9.88% | 11.8% | +1.92% | \$606,466.00 |
| 2000 | 8.91% | 12.0% | +3.09% | \$1,671,222.00 |
| 2001 | 8.66% | 13.14% | +4.48% | \$2,800,000.00 |
| | | | | (in appeal status) |

⁴ This statistic contains prospective income for cases that may have caused the case to close at the end of the report month. Therefore, the income reported here was not necessarily the income used to calculate eligibility or the allotment amount.

⁵ Source: DWD Labor Market Information at http://www.dwd.state.wi.us/lmi/employ_civilianlaborForce.htm